

From: bataphil@rrcnet.org  
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2006 7:55 PM  
To: NOP Livestock  
Subject: NOP Rules

Attachments: ATTACHMENT.TXT

Dear Sirs:

Close the loopholes in the NOP Rules. Here are the way the rules should read:

## TRANSITION OF DAIRY LIVESTOCK INTO ORGANIC PRODUCTION

Clarify Origin of Livestock. Section 205.236 Should  
Read: § 205.236 Origin of livestock.

(a) Livestock products that are to be sold, labeled, or represented as organic must be from livestock under continuous organic management from the last third of gestation or hatching: Except, That: ...

(2) Dairy animals – conversion of herds. Milk or milk products must be from animals that have been under continuous organic management beginning no later than 1 year prior to the production of the milk or milk products that are to be sold, labeled, or represented as organic. Except, That, crops and forage from land, included in the organic system plan of a dairy farm, that is in the third year of organic management, may be consumed by the dairy animals of the farm during the 12 month period immediately prior to the sale of organic milk and milk products.

(3) Dairy animals - replacement stock. Once an operation has been certified for organic dairy production, all dairy animals, including all young stock whether born on or brought onto the operation, shall be under organic management from the last third of gestation.

## SYNTHETIC SUBSTANCES

Make the criteria in §205.600(b) to apply to all synthetic substances being reviewed for inclusion on the National List.

Rewrite §205.600(b) to read:

“(b) In addition to the criteria set forth in the Act, any synthetic substance used in organic processing will be evaluated against the following criteria:”

The National Organic Standards Board must review ALL synthetic materials used in organic processing, including all synthetic substances as well as ingredients.

Withdraw the Policy Statement of December 12, 2002, entitled: Synthetic Substances Subject to Review and Recommendation by the National Organic Standards Board When Such Substances are Used as Ingredients in Processed Food Products

If USDA intends to exercise the authority granted under this amendment, they must do Rulemaking to clarify under what conditions and criteria the Secretary shall determine agricultural products [in the 5% portion of an organic processed product] to be “Commercially Unavailable.” This Rulemaking must include a 60-day comment period.

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